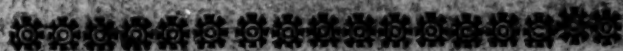




THE
ADVENTURES
OF

Charles Cartwright, &c.



THE BRITISH MUSEUM

THE

ADVENTURES

OF

James Cook Esq.
F.R.S.
JAMES COOK ESQ.
F.R.S.

IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN

B. Bradley *Printed 28 April 1786*
A

Frankly Faithful NARRATIVE

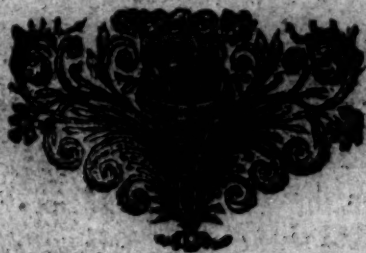
Of the Unfortunate

ADVENTURES

O F

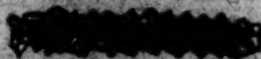
K
Charles Cartwright, M D.

Who in his Voyage to *Jamaica* was taken
by a *Spanish* Privateer and carried into
St. Sebastian. His hard Usage there, and
wonderful Escape from thence, &c. &c.



L O N D O N :

Printed for T. COOPER, at the *Globe* in *Pater-noster-*
Row, 1741.



BRITISH MUSEUM
OF THE HISTORY OF
NATURAL HISTORY
OF
LONDON



LONDON:
Printed by T. Cooper, at the Office of the
British Museum, 1825.





THE
ADVENTURE
OF

Charles Cartwright.



SURPRISING Adven-
tures are so common, and
so often the offspring of a
prolific brain, that I con-
fess, 'tis with some terror
I undertake to give a true
account of many surprising accidents of
my life. —

'Tis true I have three strong induce-
ments to overcome my apprehensions.
First, Some facts I treat of are partly,
tho' confusedly known: Several merchants
in *Bristol* had shares in our unfortunate
ship,

B

Next,

Next, the kingdom at present is very intent upon every transaction that has relation to *Spanish* affairs. And thirdly, my own necessity makes me take this opportunity of getting bread. My necessity, that obliged me to go abroad, was in part owing to my own fault, and partly to the false promises of men in power, who make it a maxim to send every petitioner away in some degree contented ; the consequence is loss of time, and the consumption of that money, that might have put the poor petitioner in some honest way of getting a livelihood.

I was educated at the University of *Oxford* ; I took my Master of Arts degree ; I afterwards travelled thro' most parts of *Europe*, or as the Polite call it, I have made the Tour. I studied *Physic* at *Leyden*, and took my Doctor's Degree under *Boerhaave*. When I returned to *London*, I wanted friends to recommend me ; my income was very small, and as I observed before, I was deceived with false promises. All these reasons obliged me to think of bettering my fortune in another Country. I am not vain enough to say, I knew my profession so well as to deserve encouragement at home, but I can't help observing, that many deserving men of that profession verify the old saying, (*viz.*) A Physician can get no bread to eat, till he wants

wants teeth to chew with. A thousand difficulties occur to him that are easily got over by one of any other profession.

The deserving Lawyer has at some time of his life an opportunity of displaying his parts at the bar. He has a numerous audience, many of which are unprovided, and upon occasion will employ the man, that they know did honour to his cause.

Tho' many excellent Divines are not provided for according to their deserts, yet they never want opportunities of convincing the world they deserve better treatment.

A Physician without friends, and without money, feldom has a patient; if by chance he has any business, 'tis among the poor, their blessing is his great reward, and his books are turned into bread: If once in his life the poor Physician is invited to a consultation, who are the judges of his merit? Why other Physicians: For many reasons then, 'tis unreasonable to expect them to sound his praise.

I was told, that *Bristol* was the likeliest place to get a ship bound for *Jamaica*. I had a relation in great credit in that town, so I resolved to apply to him to beg his friendship in getting me passage to *Jamaica*

at a reasonable rate : I departed from *London* in the *Bristol* Stage-Coach, and in three days arrived there. I waited upon my relation, who gave me a kind reception, and upon knowing my inclinations, promised me all the service in his power : He invited me to dine with him the next day, and said he would make enquiry about a vessel against that time. I waited on him according to appointment, and he introduced me to a gentleman that was sitting with him, in these terms, — Captain, this is my relation, he has a roving inclination, and tho' but lately returned from his travels, is resolved to go to *Jamaica*. And Cousin, this is Capt. *Wilson*, who is commander and part owner of a stout ship bound for that Island, he is my particular friend, I have given an account of your merit, and your affairs ; and he is come to dine with us, to assure you of a hearty welcome, and all the accommodation in his power. I returned my acknowledgements ; we dined, and the Captain insisted on our going aboard his vessel, that then lay at the Key. We were well receiv'd, and I was extremely well pleased with seeing a ship of so promising an appearance. She mounted twenty carriage guns, and six swivels ; had a Letter of Marque, and seemed as well fitted out as any vessel that ever left *Bristol*. Her complement of men was designed to be sixty, land-men included,

ded, as yet she had but thirty, men were so scarce, owing to a very hot press; but she was to victual, and take in the rest of her hands at *Cork*. She was then almost ready to sail, and the Captain appointed me my cabin, and other accommodations, and told me, I had but one week to provide such necessaries as I designed to take with me.

My Cousin settled all my affairs with the Captain, and I rejoiced at the happiness in voyaging with a man of so much humanity and good conversation; we parted, and I employed myself that evening and all the next day in buying such things as I was advised were proper for my voyage. Next evening the Captain came to my lodging, and brought with him a young gentleman that was to go passenger along with us; he seemed a most agreeable companion, and I flattered myself, that a tedious voyage would be much shortened by his company; the Captain said his name was *Smyth*. While we were on shore, we were seldom asunder; I observed he often had a mind to communicate something to me, then would blush, stop short, and awkwardly change the discourse.

I did not press his unburthening himself, because our acquaintance was but new; but on the day of our embarkation, I guessed

at

at his secret. I found him on board, and with him a youth of the greatest beauty I ever had beheld; he introduced him to me, told me he was his relation, and in his care, was going to his father, a rich gentleman in *Jamaica*, and had been in *England* some years for education. I made all the obliging compliments I was master of, and received such confused thanks from the pretty youth, as confirmed me in the suspicion I had at first sight. I took an opportunity, while we were sailing down the river, to tell Mr. *Smyth* that I had a little room in the ship, which I thought would be more convenient for his fair companion than the great cabin, where two other passengers were lodged, and where at all hours people were passing, and repassing; that I resolved to keep constant watch, and that the great cabin suited my conveniency as well as my little room. He blush'd and told me, he accepted of my most kind offer, and that he would trust me with a secret, that would shew, of what great consequence that little chamber was to him, and how much obliged he was to esteem me, and to do for me, when we arrived at *Jamaica*. I thanked him, and told him I guessed at part of his secret, and when he thought me worthy, would be glad to know more; so we parted for that time, and in the evening arrived in *King's-Road*, where we anchored to wait for the morning's tide.

tide. The Captain mustered us here ; we
 were, Mate, Surgeon, Gunner, Carpenter,
 twenty Sailors, ten Landmen, and five Pas-
 sengers.-- Next morning early we set sail with
 a fair wind ; part of that day I observed
 the Mate and Gunner very busy in making
 powder up in Cartridges ; the Captain chid
 the Gunner for not having done that long
 before ; he excused himself by saying, he
 had been very busy about the ship's load-
 ing, that he had fill'd some, and hoped
 there would be no occasion between that
 and *Cork* ; that before night he would
 make a number sufficient to blow any Pri-
 vateer out of the sea, that sailed in those
 narrow seas. We were all pleased with his
 hearty expressions.

Night came on, the gale encreased a lit-
 tle, and next day we were clear of *Scilly*.
 In the evening the wind came contrary,
 but moderate ; and next morning, we spoke
 with a small vessel from *Cork*, who told us,
 she had been chased by a Sloop two days
 before ; that she believed was a rogue, but
 had fairly out-sailed her. All this day and
 night the wind continued contrary, but
 next morning about five came fair, with a
 handsome gale, it continued all day ; and
 we expected, if it held, we might get into
Cork harbour next evening's tide. In the
 night it changed again, and in the morn-
 ing

ing a great way to windward we spy'd two sail, in an hour we perceived one to be a large Ship, the other a Sloop of about seventy ton. Our Captain ordered all hands up, bid them make a clear ship, the large vessel slack'd sail, and the sloop bore down upon us; it was the opinion of the Captain and Sailors, that the Ship was a Man of a War, and the Sloop a Tender, that would endeavour to press our hands, but for fear of the worst, we made every thing ready for a fight. The Captain ask'd his men if they would stand by him, they one and all resolutely swore they would, and we Passengers assured him of the same; he gave a small dram of Rum to every man on board, and we all took our Station.

The Sloop by this time came almost within gun-shot, slack'd sail, made signals to the great Ship, which immediately bore down, with all the sail she could crowd; then the Sloop hoisted *Spanish* colours, and made directly to board us, firing a broad-side, with a volley of small arms. We hoisted *English* colours, and waited for her till she came within half gun-shot, then we fired our board-side into her, and immediately after, according to orders, fired our volley of small arms; we could observe the distraction they were in; we stopped their intention of boarding us, and laid their

their Sloop all on one side, and before they could right her, brought our other broad-side to bear upon them, and fired so luckily into her, she sunk in shorter time than can be imagined, and we prepared to give as good a reception to the Ship, that by this time was almost within shot; we saw she was larger than ours, and as she was a Privateer, we knew she was mann'd accordingly, but our good success had spirited us up, and we resolved to conquer or die. When we were nigh enough, we fired the first broad-side, and, as before, gave them a volley of our small arms; and tho' the success was not equal to what we did against the Sloop, yet we put them in so great disorder, as hindered them from firing so regularly their great, and small shot, as they otherwise would have done; though they did return our compliment and killed our Mate, who was an honest brave fellow, and a good Sailor, and five more of our men; and before we could bring our guns to bear upon them again, they work'd their Ship round, fired another broad-side, with a most terrible volley of small arms, killed two of our Passengers, and wounded many of us. Our Captain was shot thro' the thigh; I was slightly wounded in the head with a splinter, and received a musket-shot in my side, which did not enter the cavity, but put me to intolerable pain. The Captain, though wounded, would not

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strike:

strike ; I shew'd him the impossibility to conquer such superior force, but he was brave to rashness, so we continued the fight, broad-side for broad-side, volley for volley, though with great disadvantage to our side ; at last, we gave the *Spaniard* one broad-side, did great execution, we carried away his Boltsprit, and reaked him fore and aft ; and tho' we had no great hopes of conquering, yet we were all well pleased with our revenge. We saw the prodigious execution of every fire we made, their men stood so thick ; but then we also observed the great number of men they had, and we found the effects of so many small arms, immediately after their next broad-side ; for though their great guns at that time had done us little prejudice, their volley was so great, they killed eleven of our men, and wounded many others, among whom, I again was one, receiving a shot that broke my left arm, and quite disabled me. At the same time we had an account, that we had not quite one round of powder in Cartridges, which was the greatest reason to oblige our Captain to give orders to strike, but his rage against the poor Gunner was very extraordinary, and very ill-tim'd, for he fired his Pistol at him, and narrowly missed him, cry'd damn you, you prating rascal, is this blowing the *Spaniards* out of the Sea, I'll blow your brains out for not being as good as your word. But
in

in short we did strike, every man in the Ship was wounded, and twenty out of forty killed. Poor Mr. *Smyth* received a wound in the head by a splinter, that took away his senses, and happy for him that he was not sensible, for his companion that he had taken care to place below, in the beginning of the action, peeping on deck, as I suppose, to see what was become of him, received a shot, and died instantly.

I had curiosity enough to unbutton his coat, and soon perceived it was a woman, as I before suspected; she was thrown over board in the hurry, without being discovered, and I did not hear her history till some months afterwards, from poor Mr. *Smyth* in *St. Sebastian* Jail.

Our Boat was shot to pieces, so we could not hoist her out to go on board the Privateer, as we were commanded to do, but their Boats soon came on board us; the Lieutenant that commanded, before he put his foot in our Ship, spoke aloud to his men, to give us good quarters; he spoke in *Spanish* and *English*, which shew'd he and many of his men were *Irish*. He desired our Captain to call all our hands up on deck, when finding but twenty men, and understanding we were but forty at first, he was greatly surprized at so stout a

resistance by forty men against three hundred and eighty, for we killed and sunk fourscore men in the Sloop ; and I afterwards understood we killed fifty three men in the Ship, and wounded thirty odd. We fought them six hours and a half, and every man that was left alive when we struck was wounded, the Captain, and five more of the twenty wounded, died before we got to *St. Sebastian's*. But to proceed—, The Lieutenant ordered my Captain, myself, and eight more belonging to our Ship into his Boats, and sent us on board the *Spaniard* ; our reception there was not answerable to the usage we expected, after the civil treatment we received from the Lieutenant ; with difficulty we got up the side of their Ship, by reason of our wounds, and several of us received unmerciful blows, to oblige us to make more haste ; the *Spanish* Captain stormed at us in his language, struck my poor wounded Captain, and suffered several indignities to be offered us in his own presence ; he ordered every man of us to be handcuffed, not excepting our Captain, and commanded us into the hold. I shew'd him my broken arm, and begged pitiously to be excused from handcuffs, which favour with much difficulty was granted. We had scarce got into the hold, before an officer came down to desire my Captain and me to come on deck ; he told us the Captain of the Ship had been so ex-
 aspe-

asperated at the loss of his Sloop and Men, that he did not, when first we came on board, consider any thing but his revenge, but grown cooler, begg'd we'd come up, where he had ordered Beds and Surgeons to dress our wounds. My Captain answered him thus, For my own part I scorn his assistance, he has acted the part of a Pirate, and a Pirate's death attend him; the Divine Providence will, I hope, deliver him up to my Countrymen, who will do me and mankind justice, in putting such an inhuman monster to an ignominious death; but why do I rave, it is not in the nature of an *Englishman* to be cruel, even *Spaniards* find civility among us; tell him my greatest consolation now I'm dying is, that he has it not in his power (if he had inclination) to do me kindness, and you may tell him, I have things of greater moment to think of than of such a rascal. I must confess I was sorry at the answer returned, not only because a dying man ought to be in charity with all the world, but really for fear that we poor prisoners should suffer for his ill-tim'd wrath; so I spoke to the messenger, and endeavoured to soften my Captain's harsh words. I told him 'twas true, his usage was not what one Captain usually received from another; that his great loss, and the anguish of his wounds, would I hope plead some excuse for his cross answer, and I did not question but he was too much

much a gentleman, and too good a christian to lay hold of an opportunity of making us more miserable, if possible, than we were already; as you speak our language well, I presume you are of our country, and I beg your protection for a few poor wounded men. In short, if my Captain was tired of life, I was not; I wished to see better days. I am bold to say, I fought as heartily, and as long as any in the Ship, and now that I had got my hand in the beast's mouth, I was for drawing it out, softly and safely. My words had the desired effect; he told me, he would make an excuse for the Captain, and would be particularly careful of my health, and as serviceable as possible to the Prisoners. (All which he honestly performed, and I afterwards had an opportunity of gratefully acknowledging his favours.) He again addressed the Captain, begging a calmer answer to his civil message, but to our great surprize, the Captain was no more, his life flew out in that great gust of passion, and we had no occasion to coin an answer. I went on deck, and received the Captain's excuse for the ill treatment he had given us, with as chearful a countenance, as my pain would give me leave to put on. Well, I was taken care of, my wounds were dressed, and I was laid in bed, a violent Fever succeeded, and I know very little of the rest of our voyage,

voyage, until the day before we got into *St. Sebastian's*, which was seventeen days from that unfortunate day of our Captivity.

I remained five days in the Ship after we arrived. I was carefully attended, and this abundance of kind usage was owing to my generous Countryman that promised me his protection, and was second Lieutenant of the Privateer. I was carried on shore and had a lodging, my worthy Countryman was at the expence of it, and my maintenance; he prevailed on the Surgeon of the Ship, who was a *Frenchman*, to continue his visits, and he himself gave me much of his company, which was exceeding comfortable to me. He told me he was touch'd at first sight with my misfortunes, at my pleading so pitiously, to be free from handcuffs, and at my behaviour, which was so different from my boisterous Captain; but upon enquiring among the Prisoners who I was, when he found out I was his name-fake, he had a Brother's tenderness for me, which I confess he constantly shew'd me; and tho' his ability was not great, yet he stretch'd his credit to serve me, and took up money on his share of the prizes, that was not to be divided in a considerable time. It pleas'd God to bless the Surgeon's endeavours, my wounds were speedily cured, and my strength was

was wonderfully increased ; to be sure it was a great allay to my happiness, to hear of the distress my poor Countrymen suffered in the common Jails and Dungeons of *St. Sebastian*. I desired my name-fake to inquire for poor *Mr. Smyth*, and I sent him all the endearing expressions in my power, for God help me, I had nothing but words to send him ; but my generous name-fake, who by this time could ill spare money, gave him an old suit of his own cloaths, (as he had done to me,) with a little linnen, and a little money, and brought his answer in writing, with an account of his hardships, and of my name-fake's great goodness.

My happiness in *Spain* was now almost at an end. I was above two Months ashore. I was recovered, but not well enough to attempt an escape, my patron, my name-fake was obliged to go to Sea, but recommended me as well as he was able, and gave me credit where I lodged, until his return. Our parting was tender, but necessary, for I had been a great charge to him, and he assured me, he only went to earn more money for my service.

The Magistrates began to be jealous of my designing to escape ; 'tis true, I had been tampering with a Fellow, in whose power it was, to conduct me out of *Spain*
into

into *France*, and who was suspected of having done such an affair some time before, but whether I could not raise money enough to tempt him, or that he had a mind to regain the favour of the Governor, by betraying me, or let what would be his reason, he discovered all, and more than I had trusted him with; and I was immediately ordered to the common Jail. I had this advantage of my sorrowful companions, that I had Cloaths, these miserable men were mostly naked. My worthy friend Mr. *Smyth* embraced me tenderly, and condol'd with me upon my arrival in so dismal a place. I there was saluted by ten more of my unfortunate companions that embarked with me at *Bristol*. I put on my chearfullest looks, I made a virtue of necessity, and told my friends I was proud to suffer with such brave companions. I found them in a large Court-yard playing at Quoits, and various *English* sports. Our number was about three hundred, and tho' very ragged, yet very hearty. I own I did not think our circumstances so very deplorable at first view.

My belly was then full, and the sight of my old-friends put me in spirits, which in a little time were exhausted, for before I had time to inquire into their way of living, the keepers came in, gave the word, and we were forced to divide by twenty's, and

D

retire

retire to our cells. You must observe there is no stripping a prisoner after his arrival in *Spain*; so I procured a fellow-prisoner who could speak *Spanish*, to offer one of the Jailors my waistcoat, which was pretty good, if he would place me among my own ship's crew, which he soon consented to, and put the man he drew from them in a gang he had a mind to. So to our Dungeon we went, a miserable loathsome place indeed! No straw, no covering for him that wanted cloaths, with water trickling down the walls, which made the earth we lay upon, wet and boggy. Add to these inconveniences, the sickly smell among us with the smell of the Dung-corner, as we called it, and then you'll surely pity our misfortunes: The Dung-corner was a small part of our Dungeon, which we allotted to ease ourselves in. Many of us being half dead with Fluxes, occasioned by our scanty and unwholesome food. Now indeed I began to feel the miseries of our Jail, and now I was sensible of the many blessings I had enjoyed under the protection of my kind name-fake; but as I had no remedy but patience, I submitted and bore my troubles as well as my neighbours. Thus we lived for some time, when to our greatest surprize, and joy, we were informed of the charitable allowance of his most gracious Majesty King *George* (whom God long preserve)

serve) to all his poor Subjects in *Spanish* Jails; as our want had been extraordinary, so our joy was extravagant; 'tis not in my power to express our gratitude, for we shew'd it a thousand different ways, some with huzzas, and some with tears.

While now I write the account of our first dawn of happiness, (for so I must call his Majesty's bounty) I protest a pleasing chillness seizes all my body, and I am still too full of my obligation to be able to return thanks. But to proceed; his Majesty's allowance enabled us to live comfortably, and that we might have no confusion, our Gang divided into four Messes; and I venture to say, we managed more prudently than any Gang in prison, had our lodgings been tolerable, our circumstances would not have been very uncomfortable; but they really were so unwholesome, and so nasty, that nothing but the great God's immediate mercy could have preserved our lives. And now Winter was approaching, which alarmed us terribly; we considered, it was impossible to out-live the severity of that season, in such a cold damp place; tho' we well knew their Winter was shorter than ours, but much sharper for the time; so we held several consultations on ways and means for escape, but all ended in our submission to Providence, on whom alone we depended; we had no account of a

Chartel to be soon settled, and to our shame be it spoken, our submission was more like despair, than a true christian resignation, not but we had some very good men in appearance among us, who by their prayers and example taught us to be much better, than was to hoped for from our natural inclinations, and sea education. Thus we lived tollerably well by day, very ill by night, and uneasy in our minds, with the bad prospect of what was to come. Here we had leisure enough to repent of every mispent moment of our lives. And here it was my unfortunate companion *Smyth* told me his most melancholly Story, in the following words :

My dear Friend,

‘ I BUT just recovered out of my Swoon
 ‘ as our Captain and you were going
 ‘ on board the Privateer. I was soon made
 ‘ sensible of my miserable condition, and
 ‘ was more concerned on account of my
 ‘ young companion than for any thing that
 ‘ could happen to me. I crawled down to
 ‘ the place where I had left him, but found
 ‘ him not ; I called him several times, and
 ‘ imagining he might have hid himself in
 ‘ the hold of the Ship, as the securest place,
 ‘ during our action, I sought him there ;
 ‘ but when I was acquainted with his most
 ‘ unhappy fate, I gave myself up to the
 ‘ deepest despair : In my excess of passion,

‘ I

I called upon my dearest *Sophia*, I talk'd
 with her, as though she was present ; in
 short, I became quite distracted, and in
 the absence of my mind, I let every bo-
 dy into my secrets. I let them know,
 that under the appearance of a boy, I
 had brought my wife on board. I let
 them into other secrets of my life, which
 in *England* might have been fatal to me.
 The humanity of the commanding Officer
 on board, my youth and good constitu-
 tion, all helped to reinstate me in my sen-
 ses, which was the greatest misfortune
 could have happened to me, for my
 loss was so very great, that my torment
 was extraordinary accute. My wound
 was not considerable enough to divert the
 least part of the affliction of my mind ;
 and my Liberty was so indifferent to me,
 that I never thought of my Captivity ; I
 dwindled into an insensibility, and for
 some time stupidly easy ; but again, as
 if coming out of a dream, I felt all the
 anxiety of a man in the greatest despair,
 but time alleviates the greatest sorrow.
 Whether custom makes the trouble less,
 or makes us more able to bear the trou-
 ble, I am not certain ; but the first symp-
 tom I had of getting the better of my
 affliction, was a sudden inclination to
 revenge. The passions, that excessive grief
 had suppressed, now began to reign, and
 my reason endeavoured to shew me the
 folly

‘ folly of my excess of grief : These are
 ‘ my present circumstances, and how great
 ‘ my loss is, I will convince you, by let-
 ‘ ting you know who I lost.

‘ I was born in *Jamaica*, of worthy rich
 ‘ Parents, and I trust in God they are now
 ‘ alive ; I am their only son, and I have
 ‘ one sister, now in *England*. When I
 ‘ was twelve years old, and my sister eight,
 ‘ our Parents sent us to their correspondent
 ‘ and relations in *England* ; that we might
 ‘ partake of the excellent education of that
 ‘ kingdom. In some time I was sent to
 ‘ *Westminster* school, and my Sister was
 ‘ sent to a boarding school ; I frequently
 ‘ visited her, and by that means became
 ‘ acquainted with the young ladies at
 ‘ school, among whom was my dearest
 ‘ *Sophia* ; she was my sister’s bed-fellow ;
 ‘ they loved one another tenderly, and I
 ‘ used to call her little wife : As they grew
 ‘ up their friendship increased, and the
 ‘ beauty and other perfections of *Sophia*
 ‘ made such an impression on my heart, that
 ‘ I resolved to seek every opportunity of
 ‘ ingratiating myself in her favour. I was
 ‘ now an *Oxford* scholar, and made many
 ‘ excursions to visit my sister, and pay my
 ‘ respects to my mistress. *Sophia* was an
 ‘ heiress, had a large estate, and was un-
 ‘ der the guardianship of a rich, wicked
 ‘ Attorney in *London* ; he had a son, that
 ‘ he

' he brought up to his business, that he im-
 ' ployed in the vilest points of Business, as
 ' serving subpœna's, setting, and assisting
 ' in arresting, and the young man was
 ' worthy of so good a father; he had no
 ' remorse, and promised fair to be as emi-
 ' nent as his master; for this good youth
 ' was my dearest *Sophia* designed; he had
 ' liberty to visit her whenever he pleased,
 ' and whenever he did, he tired her with
 ' an account of his exploits. He knew
 ' every Bailiff in Town by name, and when
 ' no way concerned, used to make one, in
 ' distressing poor unhappy Gentlemen, to
 ' have an opportunity of exposing their
 ' characters, and telling his mistress plea-
 ' sant adventures, as he called them. Her
 ' good nature was shock'd at such cruelty,
 ' and instead of liking him, she detested,
 ' and dreaded the sight of him: At this
 ' time, I had made my passion known to
 ' her, and by the good offices of my sis-
 ' ter, received such returns as made me
 ' hope to be the happiest man alive; and
 ' and now her guardian thinks proper to
 ' take her from the boarding school, and
 ' place her in his own family, where he
 ' might more conveniently bring about his
 ' designs; we are all alarm'd, we knew his
 ' character, and what he aimed at, and my
 ' Sister and I prevailed on dear *Sophia* to
 ' make me happy, by putting it out of his
 ' power (as we flattered ourselves) to make
 ' us

' us miserable. I provided every thing
 ' against next day, which was the day be-
 ' fore she was to leave the school ; and
 ' that afternoon met her and my sister at
 ' a place appointed, put them into a coach
 ' and six, and drove twenty miles out of
 ' town, where I had appointed a brother
 ' Collegian in Orders, and another friend
 ' of mine to meet us ; there to my greatest
 ' satisfaction my ever dear, dear *Sophia*
 ' made me happy. I now thought it out
 ' of the power of fortune to hurt us. I had
 ' all I wished and wanted ; and I protest
 ' her great estate was no inducement to me
 ' to finish our affairs in such a hurry, her
 ' perfections were too great a fortune for a
 ' much more deserving man than I. We
 ' stay'd two days and nights in the coun-
 ' try, and then returned to town to a
 ' friend's house, to whom I wrote an ac-
 ' count of every particular.

' My friend had studied the Law in his
 ' younger days, but had quitted it, on an
 ' advantageous settlement in partnership
 ' with his uncle, an eminent rich mer-
 ' chant. He was my father's correspon-
 ' dent, and was the person that paid me
 ' my allowance. He told me he wished I
 ' had let him into my affairs before I had
 ' taken my spouse away ; that he would
 ' have managed more for my advantage,
 ' and prevented difficulties and misfortunes
 ' that

' that he foresaw I was fallen into ; that,
 ' however we were heartily welcome to
 ' him, and that he would do the best he
 ' could for us ; he said he well knew the
 ' character of her guardian, that he was
 ' a bad, cunning man, and that we must
 ' prepare to receive the worst usage in his
 ' power, but that he would that instant
 ' wait on the most experienced Councillors
 ' and Lawyers, and learn from them how
 ' we were to proceed, and what we were to
 ' avoid : He returning in about five hours,
 ' told us we must immediately depart from
 ' his house, for that he was already suspec-
 ' ted of being concerned in taking off the
 ' Heiress, and that his house would un-
 ' doubtedly be search'd. I can't express
 ' my concern for the troubles I had invol-
 ' ved my dearest *Sophia* in, but she be-
 ' haved with more love and resolution than
 ' I could have expected ; we left my
 ' friend's house, got out at the back door,
 ' and went to an acquaintance of his, where
 ' he had called, in his return to us, and
 ' had provided lodgings for us. Here
 ' we remained above a week, and were in-
 ' formed, the Lord Chancellor was much
 ' exasperated against me, that warrants
 ' were out to take us, and that his Lord-
 ' ship was resolved to put the Act of Par-
 ' liament in force, which made it death for
 ' any one to marry an Heiress under age,
 ' without the consent of guardian, or

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' chan-

‘ chancery. My friend advised us, as the
 ‘ best method we could take, to leave the
 ‘ kingdom till my wife was at age, which
 ‘ would put an end to the power of her
 ‘ guardian. My dearest *Sophia* readily
 ‘ consented, and I thought no place more
 ‘ proper than *Jamaica*, where my dear
 ‘ father and mother would with open
 ‘ arms receive us. An unfortunate accident
 ‘ hastened our departure ; a servant belong-
 ‘ ing to my friend, the merchant, had been
 ‘ largely bribed to betray us, he often
 ‘ watched his master by night to our
 ‘ lodgings, and suspecting the truth, gave
 ‘ information to my wife’s guardian, who
 ‘ sent proper officers to arrest us, and sent
 ‘ his own son as an assistant ; that very
 ‘ evening I had changed my lodgings,
 ‘ and had borrowed a particular friend’s
 ‘ chambers in the *Temple*, where half an
 ‘ hour before I had sent my wife, ushered
 ‘ by my friendly merchant. I stay’d be-
 ‘ hind to pack up such things as were for
 ‘ our immediate use ; and having finished
 ‘ what I designed, was going down stairs
 ‘ with a candle in my hand, just as the
 ‘ bailiffs headed by the lawyer had mount-
 ‘ ed the first step of the stairs. I knew the
 ‘ lawyer, guessed their design, and pre-
 ‘ pared for my defence : He cry’d out,
 ‘ that’s he, seize him, seize him, and with
 ‘ his sword drawn, ran up stairs, made
 ‘ two or three thrusts at me, and endeav-
 ‘ voured

• vowed to come close enough to lay hold
 • of me. I found his design, parried his
 • thrust, and in return, run him thro' the
 • body, he fell, and his mirmidons seem'd
 • much cooler in the assault, which gave
 • me time to recover my bed-chamber door.
 • I lock'd it with speed, and without losing
 • time, threw open the sash, leap'd into
 • the garden, climb'd the garden wall,
 • and made my escape to the *Temple*, where
 • I informed my friends of my additional
 • misfortunes. Our departure now was ab-
 • solutely necessary, and it was judg'd proper
 • that my dearest *Sophia* should be disguised
 • in man's apparel. We stay'd two days
 • longer in the *Temple*, in which time I
 • settled my affairs; we took boat by night,
 • and row'd to *Brentford*, where a chariot
 • was ready to carry us to *Bristol*, which
 • we performed in two days and that night.
 • I was disguised as well as possible, tho'
 • the pursuit was not so diligent as we ima-
 • gined, because the lawyer's wounds were
 • not mortal.

• While I was in *Bristol*, I had often an
 • inclination to discover my affairs to you,
 • to beg that proof of your friendship,
 • which you so generously of your own
 • accord offered: It was not owing to any
 • suspicion I had of you, that prevented
 • my letting you into my secrets, but my
 • dear *Sophia* begged I would put it off

‘ till we fet sail, for I had given her an ac-
 ‘ count of your merit : You know the rest
 ‘ of my unfortunate life, and you see me
 ‘ now in a most deplorable condition, wish-
 ‘ ing for death, and yet desiring to live,
 ‘ that I may revenge my dearest *Sophia*’s
 ‘ death. Pity me and comfort me, my dear
 ‘ companion, for I believe you’ll own I
 ‘ am the most unfortunate Man alive.’

He ended here his woeful history, and from
 the bottom of my Soul I pitied him. I
 endeavoured as much as lay in my power
 to restore his mind to ease, and the same
 philosophy that I made use of to abate
 his pains, cured my own. And I con-
 fess, when I compared my misfortunes
 with his, I was ashamed to think of my
 weakness : But I will go on with my
 own Narrative,

One night about two hours after we had
 retired to our dungeon, we were very much
 alarmed with a more than usual moisture
 under our feet, which in a short time in-
 creased, so that we paddled as we walked ;
 we struck a light, having a tinder-box
 and candles, which we sometimes made
 use of, upon extraordinary occasions, un-
 known to our Jailors. And searching about
 for the place, whence the water sprung, I
 observed it running down the wall, about
 a foot high from the ground, and in such

a quantity, that we should soon be knee deep, if it continued; my companions were for calling to the guards for fear of drowning; I prevailed on them to be silent for a while, by shewing them it could not be deeper than our knees, by the height of the crack in the wall, where it came in. I found the wall in that place very soft, it mouldered away, almost with touching, nor did the water come in so fast upon us as before. When we applied our force to it, we soon made a large breach thro' the wall, breaking upwards, not downwards. I immediately guessed what was the matter, and told my companions there is a shore runs joining this wall. By these two days rain, the waters are out, and by the decay of our wall, has got into the dungeon from the shore; and as floods in this country are soon up, and soon fall, we very luckily, have broke open the wall, at the falling of the waters; and I am in hopes that God Almighty will miraculously free us from bondage, by this wonderful discovery. Gentlemen, let us keep this accident a secret, let us swear to be true to one another, and not to discover it to any man; there are some bad men, even among the *English*, and the hopes of gaining favour with our jailors may prevail upon some weak mind to betray us all. We all swore as I required, and then fell to work at the hole, which we enlarged with as much

much ease as we could desire. The water in the shore fell very fast, and I undertook to be first adventurer. As we had but a small hole to let in light to our prison, so we easily stopped it, to hinder the light of our candle from being perceived by the watch, and we spoke as gently as possible.

I went into the shore, which was about two foot and half deeper than the floor of our prison, and as much above the floor, and seemed to be as broad as high, a most noble building, the arch beautifully turned, and the Stones finely joined; but I had no time for making remarks. I went on some hundreds of yards, and did not find that any other shore had communication with that one I was in, nor could I observe any alteration as to height or breadth. I could just perceive a gradual descent, and finding my candle decreasing fast, I returned to give an account to my companions. They were highly pleased with my discovery, and as it was near day, we put off our further trials till next night. Sure, next day was the longest we ever knew; our impatience was so great, that many were retiring to their kennel before the hour, and our caution was so over great, that we avoided our common familiarity, and seemed half angry, and shy to each other, for fear we should be suspected for caballing; at last, the wish'd-for (so lately

ly the most dreaded) hour of retirement came.

We were all uneasy, yet all were silent, till I took upon me to speak; by praising our good behaviour and secrecy that day; I next gave order for stopping our light hole. I took one lighted, and one unlighted candle with me, not knowing how far I was to travel; I took the tinder-box, and I pitched upon Mr. *Smyth* to be my companion, in making observations; the shore was almost dry, and we proceeded at a good pace for about an hour, as near as we could guess, and then arrived at an opening on the side of a hill, over the sea: The moon was up, and we could well perceive the ships in harbour; by degrees I began to recollect the place; I had often walked under that hill, upon the Sea shore, while my arm was curing, and while I was gathering strength; and as it is natural for a man in my circumstances, had laid many schemes in that place for my deliverance. I knew where the usual landing-place was to take in the ships faggots for firing. I knew that the boats took in fresh water at a small river, not five hundred yards from where we stood; and I had often observed small boats at anchor, and others drawn upon shore near that place: We were without the walls of the town, and had we arms, I knew there was

was a possibility of seizing on a ship in the night, and afterwards we were to depend upon the same gracious Providence that had put us forward in our deliverance. We had not light enough to make as full a discovery as I wished, for the moon began to be clouded: So I sent Mr. *Smyth* back to my companions, to acquaint them with our progress, with my knowledge of the place, and with my intention to hide myself where I was, that I might make some observations by day-light; when day appeared, I observed the Governor's own barge was moored a very little way from shore, and near where I lay concealed: She was built after the fashion of our noblemens barges on the *Thames*; and upon sight of her, a lucky thought came into my head, I observed two or three small boats drawn upon shore, all which seemed to favour my scheme. I was as particularly exact in making observation as my time would afford: I slipped into my hole, struck a light and returned in less time than I had been going. Our prison door had not been opened, nor was in half an hour after I arrived, for their custom was to shut us up early, and let us out late, so I had time to repeat what Mr. *Smyth* had told them, and gave them a hint of my own design, which was, that with the assistance of one of the boats drawn up on the beach, we might in the night get on board the Governor's barge, and then we might seize on some ship,

ship, fit for our purpose ; that if day-light should surprize us, there would be no alarm at seeing the Governor's barge row along side any ship, nor would the sailors of any ship suspect us, till it was too late to hurt us. In short, Gentlemen, we have no other hazard for our liberty, nor do we deserve any if we neglect this ; besides, if we are re-taken our usage can't be worse ; so in the Name of God, let us one and all resolve on going this night, and keeping our secret as we did yesterday : They all agreed, and as we had nothing to provide to carry with us, (for it was in vain to think of getting arms) so we seemed in no hurry that could be taken notice of.

The night of our delivery came at last : We waited till even the complaints of our neighbouring Prisoners were hushed, and with as little noise as possible we all got into the shore ; we distributed our candles, and about the dead of night, arrived at the mouth of the shore : the moon shone bright, or our necks had been in danger, in descending the hill ; we got down safe, and I conducted my men, (for now they called me Captain) to where the boats were drawn on shore ; we easily launched a small one, but having no oar to work her, as it was but a little way to where the Governor's barge lay, I proposed taking off the rudder from the boat we launched, and to

F endeavour

deavour to use it, like a paddle; we also found a loose board in another boat, which served us for the same purpose; there was no noise but what we made ourselves, which was as little as possible, and the night was clear and calm: Five of us went into the little boat, and with difficulty we paddled her to the barge, where we found one man asleep: After gagging him, and blind-folding him, I order'd two oars into the small boat, and sent her for our companions, who in two trips got all on board: We found six oars on board; we mann'd them well, and finding six livery-coats belonging to the barge's crew, I ordered my watermen to put them on, my steerman put on our Prisoners cloaths, and the rest of us stow'd ourselves as well as possible, under the cannopy. We unmoor'd, and in the name of God set forward for a ship. By this time we began to expect day, so we were obliged to do our business with expedition: We sailed by several vessels, and at last pitched upon a tight sloop of force, that seem'd a Privateer. We very well knew such sort of men live on shore to the last hour, and go on shore as soon as ever they get into harbour, so our apprehension of resistance was not great. We got on board quietly, found two watchmen asleep, and secured them, and furnished ourselves with hand-spikes, and such weapons as came first to hand; some of my com-

companions spoke *Spanish*, and asked them how many men were on board? They answered four, besides themselves, upon which we went under deck, and found four lazy *Spaniards* fast asleep in their hammocks. We secured them, and by this time 'twas broad-day. The sloop lay pretty far out in the bay, and my companions were for letting the barge go adrift, hoisting sail and away. I stopp'd that motion by letting them see the necessity we had for the barge; 'tis true, we had not a fair wind, but not much of it; and if we had not had the barge, we must have ventured to sail, as fast by the fort as we could; we must have stood their fire, and run great hazard of being sunk, for there is a small fort at the entrance of the bay, where in time of war they bring all ships too, to shew their clearance, and 'tis impossible to sail by out of gun shot; but what we could not do by force, we did by stratagem; we set our sails, and made for sea; we made fast the barge a long-side of us, next the fort. Our men in their livery coats seem'd busy in handing bottles and glasses out of our sloop into the barge; we had stripp'd our Prisoners, and in their cloaths, mann'd our ship's side; we also had bottles and glasses, and seem'd to be drinking to the Governor in the barge, and the Governor drinking a bon voyage to us. The fort knew the barge, saluted the Governor, as they imagined, and we had compliments instead of death. The wind

grew brisker, and we got out to sea, and now we had no longer occasion for the barge; so after taking every thing out of her that could be of any service to us, as a Gordvine full of drams, a cask of wine, and some bread, we put our Prisoners into her, gave them two oars, and suffered them to go off in peace.

Our next business was to search our stores, which amounted to the following inventory: we had about forty gallons of water, and as much wine; ten gallons of brandy, two barrels of bad beef, one barrel of pork, two hams, about two hundred of rusk bread, about a dozen pound of sugar, with a box of candles. We mounted six carriage and four swivel guns; we had forty muskets, forty hangers, twenty case of pistols, and only fifty pound of powder, with a large stock of great and small ball. We next consulted for what port we should make: We all agreed for *Lisbon*. We next appointed proper officers, regular watches, &c. and we determined to speak with the first ship we could come up with, if a friend, to beg provision; if a foe, to fight for provision and revenge. The store we found on board, was the remainder of an unsuccessful cruising voyage; the sloop had been in her port five days, and the very day we seized her, stores and ammunition were to be sent on board. Thus the great God delivered us miraculously from a loathsome

some dungeon, and we, ungrateful wretches, soon forgot the benefits we had received at his hands : While we were in captivity, we were full of devotion ; and the night before we left our prison, we most devoutly kneeled, to beg our heavenly Father's most gracious assistance. No cursing, no swearing could be heard in our society ; we all made vows of amendment, if ever it pleased God to restore us to liberty, and how well we performed our vows, the sequel will inform you. During two days sailing, we were tollerably thankful for our deliverance, and to shew our thanks unfeigned, we swore it heartily ; our officers were appointed by ourselves ; we had all equal power, and every thing was in common. The first night we made a moderate bowl of bumbo ; for we had no lemons nor oranges to make punch, we had but a small quantity of spirits, and we were resolved to be very discreet.

We discoursed soberly, and with a seeming thankfulness upon our happy escape. We all admired our good fortune, and we remembered every minute accident that contributed to our delivery ; but above all, we were surprized at the shore ; the work was so excellently fair and regular, and each man gave his opinion about it, according to the extent of his knowledge.

One *Johnson*, an understanding good young man, said he had never seen, but he had read of such a shore among the ancient *Romans*; who were famous for their aqueducts and common shores. I recollected I had seen the remainder of such a shore in *Italy*; and to the best of my belief, they were very much a like: What confirms me in my opinion of its being a *Roman* work, is the ruined town of *Pomponia*, that lies as I am inform'd at above two leagues distant from *St. Sebastian's*; it is reported to have been an old *Roman* town, and that it took its name from the younger *Pompey*, who certainly fled to *Spain* from *Cæsar*.

Next day we had two or three quarrels and some blows; with much difficulty *Mr. Smyth*, *Mr. Johnson*, and one *Mr. Harman*, an elderly good man in appearance, and I made up the breaches, and as they had honoured me with the title of Captain, tho' I was no sailor, and as they confessed they were indebted to me (under God) for their deliverance, I took upon me, in a speech I made them, to censure their behaviour. I told them how great occasion we had at present for unanimity; that we were not out of danger; that we might be pursued; that we might meet with Privateers; that once we were forty men in a stout Ship, well provided with stores and ammunition, and in one day lost our liberty and fortunes; that

that our being companions in adversity ought to make us love one another in prosperity ; not, but if we would coolly consider our present circumstances, we were in a most deplorable condition ; our provision was so scanty, that contrary winds alone, in a short time, would bring us into more unfortunate circumstances than we had lately escaped from ; and that if we had provision enough, we had not ammunition to fight our way. I concluded with telling them, that we shewed so little thankfulness for our past redemption, that we could not expect a continuance of God Almighty's favour, unless we altered our way of life. They hearkened to me attentively, and some of them thanked me for my advice. When *Jones*, one that I had often observed to be more sedate, and in my opinion more pious than any of the common sailors, stood up, and addressed the whole crew in these words : Zounds, gentlemen, we have quite mistaken the thing, we have made a man Captain, that ought to be our Parson ; besides he knows nothing of sailing, and if you'll take my advice, we will chuse another Captain, (and then this good man won't have the impudence to give us advice) that knows what belongs to the sailing of a ship better than he. The freedom of his words pleased the whole crew, and I myself could not forbear smiling, when

when I recollected how much I was deceived in that pious good man; the joke continued the whole day, and we were all better friends than we had been the day before; that evening I observed *Harman*, the elderly man I call him, for he was old enough to be father to any of our crew, to continue a long time in earnest discourse with *Jones*, and tho' I had hitherto an excellent opinion of him, yet my disappointment in *Jones* made me suspicious.

The wind was come about contrary, and tho' the crew were not affrighted with the apprehension of want, I confess I was; besides I observed somewhat in the behaviour of the generality of them so turbulent, so odd, and so ungrateful, that I heartily wished to meet some *English* Ship; when I resolved to leave them to themselves. I communicated my thoughts to my friend *Smyth*, who had a worse opinion of them than I had, and who had assured me he judged by what had slipped from some of them they had a mind to turn Pirates. I next day told *Harman* how much I was deceived in *Jones*, and how little I deserved such treatment; his answer was, the poor fellow meant no harm, but as he had lost all his fortune, when taken prisoner, he was resolved to make a fortune the first opportunity; that he and most of the crew think you are not the fittest man to command us, and if you'll

you'll follow my advice, you will lay down the command sooner than have it taken from you. I thanked him for his counsel, and perceiving he was as great an hypocrite as *Jones*, I went on deck and told the men that I had considered seriously on the words *Jones* had spoke in jest, that I found I was not qualified to be their Captain, and that I resigned the honour into the hands that gave it me, and begged they would chuse another Captain. Why well said Parson, says *Jones*, you have just nicked it, you have laid down in time, for two reasons; the first you would have been turned out, and the next, here *Jack* our cook had put in to be Parson, so you had lost both; but now I'll ensure the doctorship to you. His continued impudence had so provoked me, that I demanded who was to be Captain, for I hoped he would give me leave to use that impertinent ungrateful rascal as he deserved. Words arose, it become a party business, and I did not want for friends to make the battle pretty equal; when Mr. *Smyth* taking hold of me said, I did not imagine you would put yourself on an equality with that fellow, your passion has transported you too far; and gentlemen, this is a very unworthy return for such obligations as you lie under, chuse a Captain, and let us all be obedient to that Captain for this voyage, and then if we don't like one another, we can part. In

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short,

short, our quarrel was made up, and Mr. *Harman* was chose Captain; he very gravely told them, Gentlemen, I thank you for this favour, I know your inclinations, and I will perform according to promise: By this I understood he had been tampering with them before; he went to his cabbin, held a council, to which *Smyth*, *Johnson* and I were forbid coming; and we judged, that from that instant they entered into an association of piracy.

We knew complaints would do us no service, so we seemed to rest contented. Next morning we spy'd a sail, we gave chase, and came up with her; she was a small *French* vessel bound from *Bordeaux* to *Cales*, loaden with *Irish* beef and *French* wine; we all judged her a lawful prize, and we ransacked her accordingly; we eased her of her beef, her wine, what bread she had, which was but little, and her water, a little money, cloaths, spare sails, an anchor; in short, of every thing that was any way serviceable to us. We dismissed her, giving her short allowance to next port: This prize disordered the little oeconomy we had; our success flushed us; our wine was in every man's power; we had been long debarred of a belly full, and faith 'twas well paid off. What seemed very extraordinary, was the sobriety of our Captain; he drank little, seemed full of thought, yet in-

indulged his men in every excess. Mr. *Smyth*, *Johnson* and I drank very heartily, but not to be fuddled : We were pleased with our recruit of provision, and I toasted aloud, success to our honest undertakings ; this recovered the hearts of my old companions, and says one with an oath, did I not tell you he was an honest fellow, and that he would be glad to make one with us, when he found the profit answer. I will be bound for him says another, so will I for *Smyth* and *Johnson*, says a third ? Why the devil should they be poor, when we are rich ? Zounds, they lost more than we did, and why should they be cut out from the profits of our voyage ? I should have known the whole secret, had not the Captain who over-heard part of the discourse just then come in, and peremptorily commanded silence : He then ordered *Smyth*, *Johnson* and I to go on deck, where, tho' we could not distinguish their words, we knew they were very high, their uproar lasted long, but at last was quieted by something the Captain said. They all came out of the cabin, and the Captain say'd aloud, Well gentlemen, I propose it to them to-morrow, according to my promise, and you'll know by the success, whose opinion is to be followed.

The wind continued contrary with a hard gale all night, and our men had drank to

such excess, that they were scarce able to do the ship's business. The Captain, *Smyth*, *Johnson* and I were all that were sober on board ; and indeed the fatigue of the night lay mostly on the Captain and *Johnson*, and one man more, that grew pretty sober, *Smyth* and I being no sailors. Next morning the storm encreased, and by twelve o'clock blew a hurricane : By this time our men were well recovered, and were as well employ'd : The wind was outrageous, the waves mountain high, and every minute we expected to founder. The storm continued all night, and in the morning seemed rather to encrease than abate, whereupon trying the pump, we had three foot water in the hold. Now you might observe dread and despair in every man's face ; all were employed, we stuck heartily by the pump, and at last we pumped her dry ; but still were obliged to keep both pumps going, she made water so fast : Thus we continued all that day, and so terrible a night succeeded, that even imagination can give but a faint idea of the horrors we encountered in different shapes. It thundered so terribly, and so often, that we imagined sometimes the ship was split in ten thousand pieces ; and the flashes of lightning were so dreadful and frequent, that we feared our ship taking fire every instant. The sea too seemed all on fire, and we were so much fatigued with the exceeding labour we had undergone, that if
our

our courage had been good, (as indeed it was not) we had not strength to work any longer : As yet the crew was not so hardened as to forget calling on the name of the Lord, that made the thunder, that raiseth the waves, and quelleth the rage thereof. This was no time to put them in mind of their late ingratitude to God and man ; nor was I so collected in myself as to be able to do it. As I expected death, I endeavoured to meet it calmly ; but all my resolution could not support me, the present dreadful scene so discomposed me, that I could pray only now and then by short ejaculations. We had showers of rain during the continuance of the thunder, which lasted great part of the night, but in the morning it seemed a settled rain ; the wind was abated, but the waves were mountain high ; upon the wind's falling, our spirits raised ; we work'd tightly at the pumps, and cleared our ship again.

This day we had a flat calm, but were in as much danger from the want of wind, as the day before from too much. We were in the *Bay of Biscay*, where the waves are monstrous high, almost at all times, but especially upon a calm succeeding a storm, the roll is prodigious, and did not Providence direct it so, that the waves of that sea seldom break, 'twould be impossible for any ship to live in such troubled water. There we

we tossed the whole day long, without making one mile backwards or forwards; at night we had a brisk gale, which made the waves much smother, our hopes renewed, and we refreshed ourselves with the best our ship afforded. That night there was another consultation, to which, as before, we were denied access: Again, our Captain promoted drinking, and the crew was in almost as bad a condition as the night before the storm. I was shocked to see that neither the indulgence nor the threats of Providence could work the wished-for good effect upon those hardened wretches; the villany of our Captain appeared more plain, and more odious. I observed he kept those poor fellows continually hot-headed, and that he obstructed every opportunity, that either *Smyth*, *Johnson* or I had of conversing with any of them. This made us resolve to ask openly what his designs were, and where he was bound for, which I did next day; and his answer was, that I but just prevented him giving us an account of his honest companions brave resolutions, and his own.

As our misfortunes have been long and great, and as we are reduced to beggary, we have undertaken a method of overcoming our misfortunes, and of being soon rich. The rich people of *England* were pampering themselves with all delights,
while

while we were starving in jail; they felt none of our hardships, and we might have rotted for ever there, before they would help us out. Ungrateful countrymen, we soon will have our satisfaction, and it is equal to us whether we plunder the man that keeps us in jail, or the man that suffers us to be kept. I was going to interrupt him, to shew how absurd his argument was, how notoriously he imposed upon ignorant men, and what misfortunes he was hurrying them into: When he stopp'd me short, by letting me know he was Captain, that he would not bear contradiction, and that he would shoot me through the head if I spoke one word, but a direct answer to the question he proposed; he then drew a pistol from his breast, which till now he had kept concealed. Observe, says he, the rule I lay down, let your answer be short, let it be, I will, or I will not, and at your peril, speak not one word more. I will have none of your reasons, no seducing the affections of honest fellows from a man that will live and die with them, from a man that knows the business he is going about, and is resolved to make all hands rich and happy. *Mr. Smyth*, *Mr. Johnson*, the terms are the same to you two, as to him; let your answers be as short as I directed. Are you willing to enter into an association with us brave fellows? Are you willing to declare war against
all

all the world, to submit to me your Captain, and obey my commands, which will bring you to riches and glory? If you consent, I will then let you into our whole scheme, where if you find any thing you disapprove upon good reasons given it shall be altered, for every man on board is as much Captain as I, only as my experience is greater than theirs, so I am fitter to be trusted with the management of affairs. Our design is to take every thing we want, from any ship (of any nation) that we can conquer, not excepting the *English*. You may call it pirating, we call it trading, getting money; we don't fear having partners enough, so 'tis not our want of men that obliges us to give you this invitation, but in part to acquit ourselves of obligations; and because many of our men have a regard for you as old mess-mates, and believe you brave fellows. Now answer, are you willing? As I was not to speak more than he ordered me, I made signs that I wanted pen, ink and paper, which he ordered to be brought. I then wrote as follows:

S I R

‘ B E. pleased to give Mr. *Smyth*, Mr.
 ‘ *Johnson* and I, leave to talk one quarter of
 ‘ an hour together; we will then give you
 ‘ our answer, as short as you desire, and I
 ‘ beg you will now declare aloud, what
 ‘ usage

‘ usage we are to expect if we do not enter
 ‘ into your association.’

The Captain read aloud what I had writ, and then told us we might consider what we ought to expect, if we did not come into their measures, as they would consult what answer was proper for him to return us ; upon which he and his council retired, and we three unfortunate men resolved to have no hand in the villany that was going forward, provided our lives were secured to us ; but if we were to lose our lives if we did not join them, we resolved to comply, and to leave, and betray them the first opportunity. Their council soon broke up, and the Captain thus addressed us : In consideration of our old acquaintance, obligations, and so forth ; ’tis our resolution, if you do not accept of our kind invitation to partnership, that your usage, while you stay on board, shall be the same as hitherto, but that we send you off with the first ship we take, let her be bound for what port she will, except *Spain* ; and now, are you willing to join us, or are you not ? I answered, Not willing ; so did *Smyth*, so did *Johnson* : And now said he, Gentlemen passengers, for you are no longer companions, at your peril avoid caballing, the least fault will be fatal to you, you understand me ; so we all seemed well contented.

H

Our

Our Captain was so cool a sinner, that we did not question his laying snares to entrap us ; we therefore behaved with all the caution imaginable. They increased in wickedness every day, and we met with insults every hour : We could not wish any ship to be so unfortunate as to fall into their hands, and yet we heartily wished to get out of their clutches. About a week after this we spy'd a sail, and gave her chase ; we soon came up with her ; for our sloop was an excellent sailor, tho' an indifferent weather-boat. She was a ship from *Liverpool*, bound to *St. Kitt's*, and had taken in beef and butter at *Cork* ; had been with many other ships under convoy, but was separated from them in the great storm, had ten men and a boy ; we ordered her to send her boat on board, which they immediately complied with ; the mate and three sailors that came in the boat, were clapped under hatches, and *Johnson*, *Smyth*, and I were put into a little hole of a cabin, where we were forced to lie upon one another, and a centry was placed over us ; then ten of our men went and took possession of the ship ; they pillaged her heartily, took every thing they had occasion for, particularly provision, almost all their water and beer ; made several trips with both ship's boats, and when they had done all the mischief they had a mind for, they put

Smyth,

Smyth, Johnson and I into the *Liverpool* man's boat, and bid us row for life; sending word by us that they had occasion for the four men, and sent us in exchange; they shewed no remorse at parting, and we received as little friendship from the ten men that embarked with us at *Bristol*, as from the strangers we met in *St. Sebastian* jail. So great an influence had the devil and that wicked Captain over them in so short a time; with a great deal of difficulty we got on board the ship, where we gave the Captain and crew an account of our Adventures, and in a little time lost sight of the sloop. The Captain was a good, quiet man, and comforted himself with having escaped as well as he did; he was rejoiced at having his boat again, and was most concerned for the loss of his water, tho' he had some water-casks stowed under deck, which the pirates could not conveniently hoist up, and were so charitable as not to stave. We had all reason to rejoice at our happy escape, for so wicked a set of villains, I believe, never belonged to one vessel before, as they grew to be in time; the particulars of their successful, inhuman villainies, who *Harman* was, and who *Jones* was, and the just punishment of their enormous crimes, with my second escape from them, I purpose to publish as soon as I am recovered of the illness which I got in my Captivity at *Carthagena*.

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